

1       26. A method for charging for distributed network analysis, comprising:  
2           collecting network traffic information utilizing a plurality of information  
3        collectors;  
4           consolidating the network traffic information utilizing at least one information  
5        collector manager coupled to the information collectors;  
6           reporting on the network traffic information to a user utilizing at least one  
7        interface; and  
8           determining a fee associated with the distributed network analysis based on a  
9        number of the information collectors.

1       27. The method as recited in claim 26, wherein the fee is reoccurring.

1       28. A computer program product for charging for distributed network analysis,  
2        comprising:  
3           computer code for collecting network traffic information utilizing a plurality of  
4        information collectors;  
5           computer code for consolidating the network traffic information utilizing at least  
6        one information collector manager coupled to the information collectors;  
7           computer code for reporting on the network traffic information to a user utilizing  
8        at least one interface; and  
9           computer code for determining a fee associated with the distributed network  
10      analysis based on a number of the information collectors.

1       29. The computer program product as recited in claim 28, wherein the fee is  
2        reoccurring.